

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in this patent application:

Please amend claims 1, 3-12, 14-17, 25-34, 37-39, 43-44, 46, 48-50, 53, 55-56, and 58-61.

Please add new claims 66-68.

**CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) An inflatable device, comprising:
  - (A) an inflatable bladder; and
  - (B) a fluid controller comprising: ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ (i) a valve coupled to and supported by the inflatable bladder, the valve being configured and arranged to control the flow of fluid into and out of the bladder, the valve forming a seal to comprising:
    - (i) a diaphragm adapted to selectively maintain fluid in the bladder ~~in response to fluid pressure within the bladder; and, and~~
    - (ii) a ~~mechanical device~~ self-closing cover configured and arranged to open the valve when the mechanical device is actuated to be biased open, the cover being adapted to prevent the flow of fluid through the valve and into the bladder, when closed.
2. (Original) The inflatable device of claim 1, further comprising a compartment coupled to the bladder and configured and arranged to enclose the valve, the compartment being adapted to receive pressurized fluid from a pump.
3. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim ~~1~~, 68, wherein the valve is a self sealing valve ~~comprising and the cover is~~ adapted to prevent the valve from opening in the presence of air pressure in the compartment, ~~and wherein the cover and the mechanical device are configure so that when the mechanical device is actuated it biases open the cover.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim ~~3~~,67, wherein the ~~self-sealing valve further comprises a diaphragm~~ is configured and arranged to form the seal in response to fluid pressure within the bladder, the seal being adapted to prevent the flow of fluid out of the bladder, and wherein the diaphragm and the mechanical device are ~~configured~~ configured so that when the mechanical device is actuated it biases open the cover and the diaphragm.
5. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim ~~1~~,wherein4, further comprising a compartment coupled to the bladder and configured and arranged to enclose the valve and the mechanical device ~~is enclosed by~~, the compartment being adapted to receive pressurized fluid from a pump.
6. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim ~~1~~,67, wherein the mechanical device is coupled to the bladder and supported by the bladder.
7. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim ~~2~~,67, wherein the mechanical device comprises an electromechanical device.
8. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim ~~7~~,68, wherein the mechanical device comprises an electromechanical device ~~is adapted to open the valve in coordination with the pump, which is adapted to provide pressurized fluid to the compartment, to inflate the bladder.~~
9. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim 7, wherein ~~when the~~ electromechanical device is adapted to open the valve, to deflate the bladder ~~with fluid.~~
10. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim ~~1~~,wherein2, further comprising the pump ~~is coupled to the compartment through a hose.~~
11. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim ~~7~~,10, wherein the pump is housed within an acoustical insulative material.

12. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim 5, wherein the compartment is disposed ~~along or~~ within the profile of the inflatable bladder.

13. (Original) The inflatable device of claim 1, wherein the inflatable device is a mattress.

14. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim ~~10~~,13, wherein the mattress comprises supplemental material, and a portion of the fluid controller is at least partially supported by the supplemental material.

15. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim ~~14~~,10, wherein the inflatable device is a mattress, and wherein the mattress comprises supplemental material, and wherein a portion of the pump is at least partially supported by the supplemental material.

16. (Currently Amended) The inflatable device of claim ~~1~~,10, wherein the pump is supported by the inflatable bladder.

17. (Currently Amended) An inflatable mattress, comprising:

(A) a first inflatable bladder;

(B) a second inflatable bladder disposed adjacent to the first inflatable bladder;

(C) a fluid controller comprising:

(i) a first valve coupled to and supported by the first bladder, the first valve being configured and arranged to control the flow of fluid into and out of the first bladder, the first valve forming a seal to maintain fluid in the first bladder in response to fluid pressure within the first bladder;

(ii) a second valve coupled to and supported by the second bladder, the second valve being configured and arranged to control the flow of fluid into and out of the ~~first~~second bladder, the second valve forming a seal to maintain fluid in the second bladder in response to fluid pressure within the second bladder; and

(~~iii~~) an electromechanical device configured and arranged to open the first valve when the electromechanical device is in a first actuated position and to open the second valve when the electromechanical device is in a second actuated position; and

(D) a compartment coupled to at least one of the first bladder and the second bladder, and configured and arranged to enclose the first valve and the second valve, the compartment being adapted to receive pressurized fluid from a pump.

18. (Original) The inflatable mattress of claim 17, wherein the compartment is flush with or within the profile of the first bladder and the second bladder combined.

19. (Original) The inflatable mattress of claim 18, wherein the compartment is v-shaped.

20. (Original) The inflatable mattress of claim 17, wherein when the electromechanical device is configured such that in the first actuated position and with pressurized fluid provided to the compartment, the first bladder is filled with fluid and is configured such that when the electromechanical device is in the second actuated position and pressurized fluid is provided to the compartment, the second bladder is filled with fluid.

21. (Original) The inflatable mattress of claim 17, wherein the compartment is flush with or within the profile of the first bladder and the second bladder combined.

22. (Original) The inflatable mattress of claim 17, wherein the electromechanical device comprises an actuator arm to open at least the first valve.

23. (Original) The inflatable mattress of claim 17, wherein the electromechanical device comprises an actuator arm to open both the first valve and the second valve.

24. (Original) The inflatable mattress of claim 23, wherein the actuator arm is arcuate.

25. (Currently Amended) An inflatable ~~mattress~~device, comprising:

an inflatable bladder; and

an articulation apparatus comprising:

a support structure to support the inflatable bladder above a floor, the support structure having a plurality of regions along a length of the support structure, and

at least one joint, each at least one joint being located intermediate adjacent ones of said regions.

26. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~mattress~~device of claim 25, wherein the articulation apparatus comprises a motor to move at least one of the regions relative to another of the regions.

27. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~mattress~~device of claim 25, wherein the regions consist of a leg region, a torso region, and a head region.

28. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~mattress~~device of claim 25, wherein the inflatable device is a mattress.

29. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~mattress~~device of claim 28, wherein the inflatable device is an air mattress.

30. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~mattress~~device of claim 25, wherein the inflatable ~~device~~bladder is adapted to deflate upon a first actuation of the articulation device.

31. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~mattress~~device of claim 30, wherein the inflatable ~~device~~bladder is adapted to ~~re-inflate~~inflate upon a second actuation, subsequent to the first actuation, of the articulation device.

32. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~mattress~~device of claim 25, wherein at least one of the regions is substantially continuous.

33. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~mattress~~device of claim 32, wherein each of the regions is substantially continuous.

34. (Currently Amended) An inflatable device, comprising:  
a first inflatable bladder; and

a second inflatable bladder disposed adjacent to the first bladder, the first bladder and the second bladder being adapted, at corresponding first levels of inflation, to maintain a body in a first body position, and at corresponding second levels of inflation, to maintain atthe body in a second body position.

35. (Original) The inflatable device of claim 34, further comprising a comfort layer disposed on at least one of the first bladder and the second bladder.

36. (Original) The inflatable device of claim 34, wherein the first body position is prone and the second body position is reclined.

37. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~mattress~~device of claim 34, wherein the first level of inflation of the first bladder is greater than the second level of inflation of the first bladder, and the first level of inflation of the second bladder is greater than the second level of inflation of the second bladder.

38. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~mattress~~device of claim 34, wherein the first bladder is adapted to support the torso of a user and the second bladder is ~~a pillow~~adapted to support the head of the user.

39. (Currently Amended) An inflatable body support device, comprising:  
an inflatable bladder; and  
a base releasably connected to the inflatable bladder and adapted to support the inflatable bladder, the base comprising a compartment disposed beneath the inflatable bladder.

40. (Original) The inflatable body support device of claim 39, further comprising a frame releasably connected to the base and supporting the inflatable bladder above the compartment.

41. (Original) The inflatable body support device of claim 39, wherein the inflatable bladder is hingedly coupled to the base.

42. (Original) The inflatable body support device of claim 39, wherein the inflatable bladder is hingedly coupled to the base through a frame that is hingedly connected to the base.

43. (Currently Amended) The inflatable body support device of claim 39, wherein the inflatable bladder ~~is~~ forms an air mattress.

44. (Currently Amended) The inflatable body support device of claim 39, wherein the inflatable bladder ~~is~~ forms a chair.

45. (Original) The inflatable body support device of claim 40, wherein the frame is adapted to one of slide, rotate or elevate the inflatable bladder relative the base.

46. (Currently Amended) The inflatable body support device of claim 45, further comprising one of a rail, guides or tracks to ~~enable~~ facilitate one of the sliding, rotating and elevating of the inflatable bladder relative the base.

47. (Original) The inflatable body support device of claim 46, further comprising a locking mechanism to maintain the inflatable bladder in an elevated position.

48. (Currently Amended) A method of using a configurable inflatable device comprising an inflatable bladder and at least one shape-defining member that combines with the inflatable bladder such that the overall shape of the inflatable bladder in an inflated condition and in combination with the at least one shape-defining member is substantially different from an inflated shape of the inflatable bladder alone, comprising acts of:

adapting the at least one shape-defining member to correspond to a first selected shape;

inflating the ~~inflatable~~ bladder to attain the first selected shape;

adapting the at least one shape-defining member to correspond to a second selected shape; and

inflating or deflating the bladder to attain the second selected shape.

49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 48, further comprising an act of using the inflatable device with a first part of ~~the~~ body while in the first selected shape and using the inflatable device with a second part of the body while in the second selected shape.

50. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 48, wherein the first act of adapting forms a device suitable for use with ~~the~~ head of a user and the second act of adapting forms a device for use with one of the back and the legs of the user.

51. (Original) The method of claim 48, wherein the act of inflating the bladder to a first selected shape forms a bolster pillow of a first size, and the act of inflating the bladder to a second selected shape forms a bolster pillow of a second size.

52. (Original) The method of claim 48, wherein at least one of the first shape and the second shape is non-cylindrical.

53. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 48, wherein the at least one shape-defining member comprises at least one fastener ~~is directly~~ connected to the inflatable bladder.

54. (Original) The method of claim 48, wherein the act of adapting the at least one shape-defining member to correspond to a second selected shape comprises adjusting a rigid member.

55. (Currently Amended) A method of using a configurable inflatable device comprising a bladder, comprising acts of:

- adapting the bladder to correspond to a first selected shape;
- inflating the ~~inflatable~~ bladder to attain the first selected shape;
- adapting the bladder to correspond to a second selected shape; and
- inflating or deflating the bladder to attain the second selected shape.

56. (Currently Amended) The method of using the configurable inflatable device of claim 55, wherein one of the acts of adapting the bladder to correspond to the a first selected shape and



adapting the bladder to correspond to the a second selected shape, comprises an act of folding the bladder.

57. (Original) An inflatable air mattress, comprising:  
an inflatable bladder; and  
a heater adjacent to the inflatable bladder.

58. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~bladder~~air mattress of claim 57, wherein the heater is comprised of at least one resistive strip having an adhesive strip disposed on the bladder.

59. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~bladder~~air mattress of claim ~~57~~,58, wherein the bladder has a length, and the at least one resistive strip runs along substantially the entire length of the bladder.

60. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~bladder~~air mattress of claim 57, wherein the heater is uniformly disposed along a dimension of the mattress.

61. (Currently Amended) The inflatable ~~bladder~~air mattress of claim 57, wherein the heater is disposed along only a portion of the mattress.

62. (Original) A method of using an inflatable device comprising an inflatable bladder, a surface layer, and a first intermediary layer disposed between the bladder and the surface layer, comprising acts of:  
removing the first intermediary layer; and  
placing a second intermediary layer in the location disposed between the bladder and the surface layer.

63. (Original) The method of claim 62, wherein the first intermediary layer comprises at least of one of the following materials: foam, cotton and down.

64. (Original) The method of claim 62, wherein the first intermediary layer and the second

intermediary layer comprise the same materials as one another.

65. (Original) The method of claim 62, wherein the first intermediary layer and the second intermediary layer comprise different materials than one another.

66. (New) The inflatable device of claim 1, wherein the cover is hingedly coupled to the inflatable bladder.

67. (New) The inflatable device of claim 1, further comprising a mechanical device configured to bias open the cover, when activated.

68. (New) The inflatable device of claim 67, further comprising a compartment coupled to the bladder and configured and arranged to enclose the valve, the compartment being adapted to receive pressurized fluid from a pump.